

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 21332 271240Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----015536 271241Z /23

O R 271228Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4293
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

S E C R E T BONN 21332

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CE (CHESTER)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PGOV, MILI, BQG, AKB
SUBJECT: RUMORS OF GDR RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS TO
EAST BERLIN

REFS: A) STATE 306481 DTG 323109Z DEC 77 (NOTAL)
B) BONN 21170 DTG 221618Z DEC 77 (NOTAL)

1. WITH RESPECT TO PARAGRAPH 3 OF REF A, WE CAN SPEAK
ONLY TO THE ADVISABILITY, NOT PRACTICALITY, OF HAVING
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MISSION AND EMBASSY CARS PRESENT THEMSELVES AT THE
CHECKPOINT ON JANUARY 1 AFTER MIDNIGHT. IF EMBASSY
BERLIN AND USBER CONCUR, WE BELIEVE SUCH A STEP WOULD
BE USEFUL IN ATTEMPTING TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY
RESTRICTIONS WOULD AFFECT THE "FLASH PROCEDURE,"
ASSUMING THERE ARE VOLUNTEERS FROM EMBASSY WHO WOULD
BE PREPARED TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN WEST BERLIN IF ENTRY

BY FLASH PROCEDURE IS DESIRED.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION REGARDING "EARLY MORNING DECEMBER 31 OR EARLY MORNING JANUARY 1," WE UNDERSTAND THE RUMORS TO BE THAT, AS OF JANUARY 1, THE CHECKPOINT WILL BE CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT TILL 6 A.M. THIS PRESUMABLY WOULD MEAN THE INITIAL RESTRICTION ON ACCESS WOULD BE FROM 2400 HOURS DECEMBER 31 UNTIL 0600 HOURS JANUARY 1. HOWEVER, SUCH RESTRICTIONS MIGHT COME INTO EFFECT BUT NOT EXACTLY ON SCHEDULE. OUR PURPOSE IN SUGGESTING FLAG TOURS BEFORE AND AFTER MIDNIGHT ON EACH OF SEVERAL DAYS AROUND THE RUMORED COMMENCEMENT DATE OF JANUARY 1 WAS TO COVER THIS POSSIBILITY (PARAGRAPH 9 (B)(2)(A) AND (B) OF REF B).
STOESSEL

SECRET

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: BERLIN ACCESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN21332
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770481-1140
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Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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